



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Highway Administration

**PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING for
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY
ACT and NATIONAL HISTORIC
PRESERVATION ACT REQUIREMENTS
for:**

MODIFICATIONS TO PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW, WASHINGTON D.C.

**Public Scoping Meeting
At the Office of the National Capital Planning Commission
401 9th Street, NW, North Lobby, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20576
Wednesday, January 15, 2003
5:00 PM to 8:00 PM**

Project: The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the District of Columbia Department of Transportation, the National Park Service, the National Capital Planning Commission, and the Commission of Fine Arts, proposes to make temporary and permanent modifications to Pennsylvania Avenue NW, adjacent to the White House (15th Street NW to 17th Street NW, including Jackson and Madison Places), Washington, DC. The proposed modifications will be developed in accordance with criteria based on, but not limited to, physical, functional, aesthetic, historic and security issues and requirements. The project is intended to address some of the issues and concerns resulting from the 1995 closing of this section of Pennsylvania Avenue.

Environmental Review Process: The FHWA is, with this meeting, beginning the process of environmental review in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This meeting will also initiate the public involvement process for compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act. At this time it is anticipated that the NEPA document for this undertaking will be an environmental assessment. This assessment will include documentation of existing conditions, review of past and current planning activities, and development/evaluation of modification alternatives. As part of the assessment process and public involvement, the FHWA is hosting this initial public scoping/information meeting on January 15, 2003 to provide an opportunity for interested members of the public, agencies and interest groups to learn about the project, ask questions, provide comments, and identify concerns they feel should be addressed during the assessment process. While no formal presentation will be made at this meeting, representatives of the FHWA and cooperating agencies will be present to answer questions, explain the assessment process and receive comments. Visual displays and other informational materials will be available. As with all such projects, public involvement is important throughout. Additional public information meetings will be scheduled as the project moves forward and comments are collected. We encourage you to attend and to continue to be involved throughout the duration of the project.

Public Comment: Comments and/or questions related to information available at this meeting, may be submitted at the meeting or sent directly to Mr. Jack Van Dop, FHWA, 21400 Ridgetop Circle, Sterling, Virginia, 20166, fax (703) 404-6217, e-mail, Jack.Van.Dop@fhwa.dot.gov at any time no later than twenty days after the meeting (February 3, 2003). The project record is open during the length of the assessment process. We encourage interested parties to continue to submit comments throughout this assessment process.

Special Assistance: If you require additional information or special assistance to attend and participate in this meeting, please call 703-404-6282.